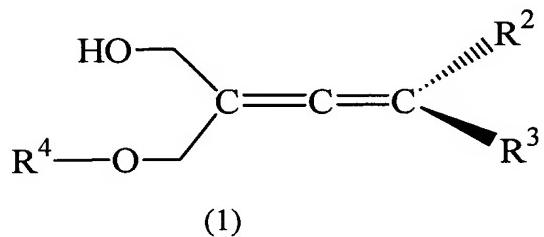


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

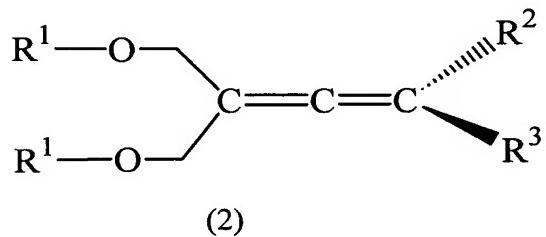
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A process for producing an optically active allene represented by formula (1):



wherein R² and R³ are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C₁₋₂₀ alkyl group or an optionally substituted C₆₋₂₀ aryl group, and R⁴ represents an acyl group, which comprises reacting an allene derivative represented by formula (2):

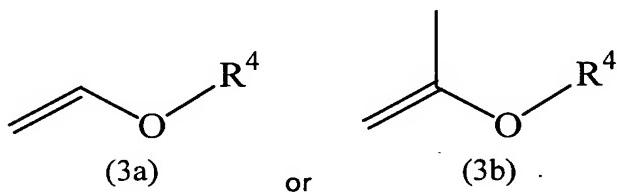


wherein R¹ represents a hydrogen atom or an optionally substituted acyl group and R² and R³ have the same meaning as defined above, with an acylating agent having an acyl group represented by R⁴ when both R¹'s are each a hydrogen atom or with water when both R¹'s are each an acyl group represented by R⁴, in the presence of an enzyme catalyst.

2. (Original) The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 1, wherein the enzyme catalyst is a lipase enzyme or an esterase enzyme.

3. **(Original)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to claim 2, wherein the enzyme catalyst is at least one member selected from the group consisting of *Candida Antarctica* lipase, *Pseudomonas fluorescens* lipase, *Pseudomonas cepacia* lipase, porcine pancreatic lipase, porcine liver esterase and *Candida rugosa* lipase.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, wherein the acylating agent is a compound represented by:



wherein R⁴ represents an acyl group.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~ claim 1, wherein R¹ is a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C₁₋₂₀ alkylcarbonyl group or an optionally substituted C₆₋₂₀ arylcarbonyl group.

6. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~ claim 1, wherein R² and R³ are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C₁₋₁₀ alkyl group or an optionally substituted C₆₋₁₀ aryl group.

7. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 6~~ claim 1, wherein R² and R³ are different and each represents a hydrogen atom, an optionally substituted C₁₋₄ alkyl group or an optionally substituted C₆₋₈ aryl group.

8. **(Currently Amended)** The process for producing an optically active allene according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7~~ claim 1, wherein R⁴ is an acetyl group, a butyryl group or a benzoyl group.